

Mount Wachusett Community College

THE INFORMATION BULLETIN OF MOUNT WACHUSETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE, GARDNER, MASS.

Chronicle

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ATHLETIC COMPLEX CONTRACT SIGNED

Dr. Arthur F. Haley is pleased to announce that Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner will soon have an Athletic Complex. The contract for construction was formally signed in Boston on Friday, September 26th at the State's Bureau of Building Construction.

This third and final stage of the College's development is planned for completion in the fall of 1977. It will include a two-level athletic building consisting of a 26,000 square foot gymnasium, divisible into three teaching stations. Other features are a swimming pool, two squash courts, two handball courts, a multipurpose room, locker room, training room, classroom, conference room, and five faculty offices. Eight outdoor lighted tennis courts, two lighted outdoor basketball courts, softball, baseball, soccer/football fields as well as a running track will comprise the outdoor facility. A spectator grandstand will seat 1,200 outside; a comparable number of spectators can be seated inside.

This facility will permit the expansion of the intramural and intercollegiate athletic programs. Plans have also been formulated for instructional programs in Physical Education and Recreation Leadership. Also projected are plans for a service program for the entire student body.

The potential uses of the Athletic Complex by the community are limitless. It will provide the community with complete recreational facilities as well as a center for expositions, convocations and conventions.

The Mount Wachusett Community College project is under the direction of Michael Kraus, an associate with Hugh

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Largest Class in History Enrolled

On September 8th, Mount Wachusett Community College began both day and evening classes with the largest enrollment in its 12 year history.

The day school population is over 1,400 students. The Evening Division has had more than 2,200 people sign up for courses at both the Fort Devens & Gardner campuses.

Despite serious State budget cutbacks, President Arthur F. Haley has indicated that the College will make every effort to live within the strained budget and that no student will be turned away this Fall. However, there is considerable

doubt about the ability of the College to accept students in February of this year in the day school. Usually about 250 new students are admitted at mid-year to the day school each year.

A special feature of the College this Fall is the opening of an Office of Veterans' Affairs. Federal funds have been allocated to the College for this expanded service to veterans of this area. Special counseling, testing, placement, and career planning services will be available at the Office of Veterans' Affairs under the direction of Dr.

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Returning to teaching this semester, Dr. Arthur F. Haley, President of MWCC, seems to enjoy his Speech class.

GED FIRST STEP TO SUCCESS

Anybody can learn whatever they want to according to Maxie. She should know just having received her high school diploma at the age of 50. Evelyn "Maxie" Turk of 156 Madison Street, Fitchburg, completed a 16-week course sponsored by Mount Wachusett Community College and Digital Equipment Corporation, Westminster, and passed the state's high school equivalency exam.

"I am privileged to have my GED" she went on to explain. "I wanted to go back to school ever since I dropped out because of World War II . . . I went to work and after the war got married and started to raise my family. I've often thought about it, but it wasn't until this

opportunity came along that I got myself going. We went one night a week after work for intensive preparation and let me tell you there were some nights we all wanted to quit. We were sure that we wouldn't make it. English grammar was really hard for some of the people of French Canadian descent in the class. For me it was the math . . . those fractions and equations! Our instructor, Phebe Smith, was terrific. She was the one who prodded us and got most of us through. She coaxed and kidded each week and really helped us get over our confidence problems. We didn't all make it but most of those who missed the first

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DVC ANNOUNCES FALL EVENTS

The Distinguished Visitors Committee of Mount Wachusett Community College wishes to announce its Fall calendar of events. The DVC brings cultural and entertaining events to the area.

Monday, September 29th, 8:00 P.M., Gardner High School Auditorium:

The Marlboro Theatre Guild of Marlboro, Vermont performed Moliere's classic farce *The Doctor in Spite of Himself*. Colorful scenery and costumes aid the company of twelve to portray a situation in a traveling medicine show. One actor is mistaken for a great doctor and commanded to cure the mayor's speechless daughter. After many masquerades and complications, the doctor discovers that the best cure is love. His predicament is set to original music and lyrics.

Friday, October 17th, 8:00 P.M., Gardner High School Auditorium:

The College presents a return engagement of *Norman Bigelow*. Mr. Bigelow is a talented escape artist in the classic style of Harry Houdini. Bigelow's last performance drew a full house in 1973. Nostalgia and suspense combine to form an interesting evening with this "Houdini Reincarnated" as he is known. Mr. Bigelow tours numerous colleges every year and has been seen on both local and national television.

Sunday, November 9th, 8:00 P.M., Gardner High School Auditorium:

In the celebration of our nation's Bicentennial, the Distinguished Visitors Committee, in cooperation with the Gardner Concert Association, presents *Musical America*. This is a collection of the most tuneful moments in American Musical Theatre. Sung and danced by six

fine musical artists, the multimedia presentation is fully staged and lavishly costumed. Some of the songs include: Swanee River, Indian Love Call, Oh, What a Beautiful Morning, Maria, Some Enchanted Evening, and others, all a part of America's musical past. Admission is free to members of the College community with proper ID and to members of the Gardner Concert Association. Others may purchase tickets at the door for a small donation.

Thursday, December 4th, 8:00 P.M., Gardner High School Auditorium:

The last major program of the semester is Tom Noel's *Mark Twain at Home*. Mark Twain is brought to life through the talents of the fine New York actor, Tom Noel. Laughter, appreciation, and art are the tone of the evening as Mark Twain comes alive for the audience.

The Distinguished Visitors Committee and the College try to provide both the students and the communities with a broad spectrum of events. Monies used to fund these programs come exclusively from student activity fees. It is hoped that everyone will take advantage of these offerings.

In addition to these excellent programs, others will be added during the semester. The College hopes to bring Dr. Timothy Johnson, host of TV 5's "House Call" to the campus. The DVC is also in the process of finalizing a date for the appearance of the "Chaiertown Pipers". Dates and times of these programs will be publicized well in advance.

Everyone in the area is cordially invited to attend any or all of the programs. All are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

GED . . .

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time are going in for the second try."

Maxie runs the mail room at Digital and also finds the time to organize events for the plant's Recreation Club. She is an entertainer by past profession and seems to be chief of morale for the plant, too. She has three sons, one of who is working at Digital Equipment Corporation. She is urging him to enroll in the GED program for his high school equivalency. Maxie is so excited about having her GED that she acts as the prime recruiter for the program among the staff. "I've always said to myself 'if they can do it, I can do it!' I've held all sorts of jobs in my life and I've always managed to learn whatever was needed. I learned keypunch when I couldn't even type when I worked for North American Aviation in Los Angeles. I worked at the Lincoln Laboratories doing research on a microdensitometer. The GED is the proof of my learning ability. I try to tell the people around here that they can graduate from high school, and I've gotten quite a few to sign up for next semester."

Maxie is looking forward to enrolling in an accounting course in September, through Digital Institute and for college credit from the Mount. "I'm sure I could have succeeded in the accounting course without the GED but I needed it for the requirement. Now that I've got it **nothing** can stop me." Digital Institute is an in-plant education program developed through the cooperative efforts of Digital, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and Mount Wachusett Community College. Faculty teach courses at the Westminster plant and employees who enroll can work towards various college degrees. The High School Equivalency Certificate Course is run through the Learning Center at the Mount, an authorized GED testing center.

Ted Campbell, the manager of Management Training and Development of the Westminster plant is the originator of the GED program. He contacted Phebe Smith, director of the Learning Center at the "Mount" and together they started the high school equivalency program. "I was encouraged to see that 14 passed," says Ted. "Most had been out of school from three to thirty years. I was excited about all the energy they generated."

Phebe agrees. "They all worked very hard and I was thrilled they gained enough points to pass. Maxie and her sense of humor and capacity to entertain helped the whole class through some long winter nights."

The 14 recipients of the GED certificate from the Westminster plant were: Phyllis Brown, Francis Cota, Betty Duval, Emmett Massie, Paul Rameau, Theresa Rouleau, Madeleine Siciliano, Chris Arsenault, Mary Bosworth, Novella LeBlanc, James Melvin, Marie Robichaud, Rita Souliere and Evelyn Turk.



Incumbent Mayor Stephen J. Erickson and his opponent Charles P. McKean were given an opportunity to air their platforms over Montachusett Cable Television. Laurie Roberts, News Director of Gardner Radio Station WGAW, acted as moderator. The program was produced by MWCC's Media Services Department. A second live color television hour was aired that featured the candidates for the Gardner City Councillor at Large election.

MWCC HOSTS SENIOR CITIZENS

The highlight of the summer at Mount Wachusett Community College was a Senior Citizens Day held on August 21st. The day attracted over 500 senior citizens who participated in various offerings, both educational and entertaining.

The day was conceived to further involve the communities in the College and its activities. For many people, it was their first visit to the new campus.

Senior citizens from Gardner, Fitchburg and Leominster were bussed to the campus early on this Thursday morning in August. Seminars then took place until lunchtime. Mr. James Stone, the Commissioner of Insurance for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was on hand to speak on the proposed rate hikes. There were representatives available from the State's Department of Elderly Affairs, Social Security, Central Massachusetts Legal Services, Montachusett Home Care, and the American Association of Retired Persons.

The elderly could also take advantage of speakers on will and estate planning, consumerism, retirement, nutrition, utilities, and various pertinent diseases. The Visiting Nurses Associations of the three communities held blood pressure clinics.

The senior citizens were invited to choose the seminars which interested them the most, and to involve themselves with several subjects during the morning. At noon, the groups adjourned for a buffet luncheon.

In the afternoon, the keynote address was held outside in the Greek theatre. Dr. Arthur F. Haley, President of the College, greeted the assembly and presented Mr. Jack Leff. Mr. Leff is the former Secretary of the Department of Elderly Affairs and is presently an associate of the Brandeis/Boston University Gerontology Consortium.

The remainder of the afternoon was



Afternoon festivities were held in the College's Greek theatre. From left, Jack Leff, of the BU/Brandeis Gerontology Consortium; Dr. Arthur F. Haley; Frank K. Hirons; and Daniel Bell of Leominster Senior Citizen Drop in Center.

devoted to entertainment. A brass band played in the amphitheatre while raffle prizes were awarded. Games included horseshoes, golf, or beano. One very popular attraction was a beer garden on the south patio where many people drank beer and danced to the tunes of honky tonk piano.

The day was sponsored by Mount Wachusett Community College in conjunction with the Leominster, Fitchburg and Gardner Councils on Aging. Contributions, both financial and raffle prizes, were offered by area businesses. There was no charge to the senior citizens for their attendance. The success of the day began discussion about making Senior Citizens Day an annual event at the College.

VICS STUDENT ASSISTS AREA ELDERLY

Ms. Dorothy Baer, a sophomore enrolled in the General Human Services Curriculum spent six months this summer working for the Gardner Council on Aging. This most worthwhile work experience earned three credits for Dorothy and was arranged through the new **Volunteers in Community Service** program.

This experiential learning program enables qualified sophomores to receive college credit while volunteering at local non-profit agencies. In this manner, the agency receives needed assistance while the student benefits from a work experience closely related to his/her field of study.

Ms. Baer performed many duties while she volunteered at the Council on Aging. She compiled a referral booklet describing the services available to the elderly from area agencies. She also provided information to callers on the Council's new community service referral line. At a later date, Dorothy will try to follow up all referrals to ensure that the necessary help was, in fact, provided.

For her work with the elderly, Ms. Baer received notes of congratulations from State Senator Robert Hall and Mr. Brud O'Neill of the Massachusetts Department of Elderly Affairs. Mr. Thomas MacDonald, director of the Gardner Council on Aging, also expressed his thanks for the work of Ms. Baer.

There are currently twelve students enrolled in the VICS program at Mount Wachusett Community College. VICS is coordinated at the "Mount" by Msrs. Daniel J. Donovan and Michael Stephano.



The Barre Brass Quartet plays for the assembled Senior Citizens.

CAMPUS NOTES

Among the new faces on campus, there is Wendy Rose, occupying Room 144 opposite the Bookstore. Wendy is functioning as a counselor for Project Start and will work with Bob Gilman. Wendy is spending this year at the "Mount" as an intern from Antioch College in Keene, New Hampshire. The internship is part of Antioch's program for a masters degree in education.

Wendy is a graduate of Principia College in Illinois, majoring in history. She has taught history on the high school level in Illinois. She has also worked for the Christian Science Church in Boston for several years as a counselor in personnel.

Ms. Rose hopes to be available to anyone, whatever the problem, as well as Project Start students. She is here regu-

larly every day except Wednesday when she attends classes in Keene. She resides in Rindge, New Hampshire. Her hobbies include archaeology. When she lived in the Midwest, she participated in the digs at the Koster Site near St. Louis looking for Indian artifacts.

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Another new face on campus is Fran Milgroom. Ms. Milgroom is at the "Mount" teaching Distributive Education under a grant from the Department of Vocational Education.

Fran is a lawyer with five children, and lives in Newton. She hopes to be available to as many students as possible. Her office is Room 228.

Ms. Milgroom is a tax specialist, and will teach marketing, retailing, and sales

management. She is willing and prepared to counsel students outside of her formal duties.

Her background includes a bachelors from Goucher College, a Masters in Economics from Simmons College, and her JD from Boston University School of Law. She also has 19 hours towards a Masters in Education.

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Largest Class . . .

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Richard Rollins, of the College staff.

Additional counseling services will also be made available to the community and to students during the evening hours when the Continuing Education Program is in session. All the services of the Division of Student Personnel Services will be provided in the expanded counseling center.

The College is also expanding the G.E.D. high school equivalency testing program and will now test applicants six times during the year during the months of October, December, February, April, June, and August. Heretofore, only three testing dates were provided.

Athletic Complex . . .

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Stubbins and Associates, Inc. of Cambridge. Structural consultant is LeMessurier Associates/SCI, Cambridge. The mechanical and electrical consultant is Francis Associates, Cambridge.

Award of the \$4,411,340 construction contract was made to Granger contracting, Worcester.



Five ducks have now found a home in one of the ponds on campus. The ducks were donated by Susan and Mark LaFontaine and Former Gardner Mayor Clarke Stedman.

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